

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claims 1 - 5 (canceled)

Claim 6 (currently amended): A handheld pet animal bathing utensil for connection to a source of pressurized water through a hose or other supply line and for simultaneously delivering a plurality of streams of flowing water to an animal's fur coat, some of said streams delivered to the base of the animal's fur coat and other of said streams simultaneously delivered to the outer portion of the animal's fur coat, to displace entrapped insulation air in the animal's fur coat and effectively bathe the animal, said utensil including a housing defining a chamber for receiving water from said source of pressurized water, said housing having an outer periphery and having a substantially planar housing surface with an inner housing surface portion and an outer peripheral housing surface portion bounded by said outer periphery surrounding said inner housing surface portion, said substantially planar housing surface defining an array of spaced water exit ports in fluid flow communication with said chamber and located within said inner housing surface portion in a first common plane occupied generally by said substantially planar housing surface, and said utensil further including an array of elongated, spaced, rigid tubular extensions projecting outwardly from said outer peripheral housing surface portion and in fluid flow

communication with said chamber, said elongated, spaced, rigid tubular extensions being rigid over the entire lengths thereof and having parallel primary axes disposed orthogonally relative to said substantially planar housing surface and further having distal ends, said array of elongated, spaced, rigid tubular extensions positioned along the entire length of said outer periphery of said housing surrounding the array of spaced ports, and said elongated, spaced, rigid tubular extensions being free of openings along the sides thereof and having ~~open distal ends~~ water discharge openings formed in said distal ends spaced from said ports and disposed generally in a second common plane spaced from and disposed outwardly of said first common plane and said ports, said elongated, spaced, rigid tubular extensions being of sufficient length to penetrate the animal's fur coat and deliver water from said chamber to the base of the animal's fur coat through the ~~open~~ water discharge openings in the distal ends thereof in directions co-axial with the primary axes when said ports deliver water from said chamber to the outer fur coat, and said elongated, spaced, rigid tubular extensions operable to create a cushion of water over the animal's skin reducing friction between the utensil and the animal and cooperable with the animal's fur coat to reduce pressure and velocity of water after exiting said ports and ~~open~~ water discharge openings at the distal ends to reduce splashing and enabling gravity to direct

excess water from the bathing utensil down a side or sides of the animal, said ports operable to relieve water pressure in said chamber when the ~~open~~ water discharge openings at the distal ends of the elongated, spaced, rigid tubular extensions are blocked, said handheld pet animal bathing utensil additionally including a control valve operatively associated with said housing for controlling water flow through said water exit ports and said water discharge openings.